WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY—Founded December 19, 1857 MAY 1975

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Museum fever appears to be striking more people lately than just our WCHS members. The general consensus of opinion seems to be that the Washtenaw County Historical Museum will soon be reality. It is most gratifying to me for individuals and organizations to offer us their help in our efforts to build our museum. We've had a variety of offers from professional people for their expertise whenever we need them as well as enthusiastic offers from the "willing and able" ranks. We hope everyone will be needed to "pitch in" soon.

Great interest is also evident in the increased number of donations to the society for the museum. These have been so numerous that we haven't had time to catalogue and publish them. In addition, I have been corresponding with several people who are making arrangements to donate items to the museum. Some of these offers have come from people a great distance away, such as six pieces of farm equipment over 120 years old from the Popkins farm on Earhart Road. Mrs. Popkins lives in California with her daughter, Patricia Popkins Bearden. However, I guess the record for a long distance donation is still held by a Dr. Chases' Recipes, or Information For Everbody, which was sent to me from Australia. A list of donations will be distributed at the annual meeting on June 12th.

Hazel Proctor, President

ANNUAL TOUR WILL VISIT FIVE CENTENNIAL FARMS, END WITH CHICKEN DINNER 'N' ALL THE TRIMMINGS

The annual county historical tour Sat. June 14 will visit five Centennial Farms and wind-up with a country chicken dinner with all the trimmings.

At some of the farms to which we are invited, we shall tour the home itself and see antiques and interesting architectural features, Tom Lacy, vice-president, said.

At some we will tour outbuildings and see antique farm equipment. Items include churns, cream separators, wooden bowls to "work" butter in and butter presses. Some also have Indian artifacts found on the farm.

A bus will leave from the downtown Ann Arbor Federal Savings and Loan parking lot in Ann Arbor at 1:30. The tour is to wind-up at the Wesley United Methodist Church at Whitmore Lake about 5:30 p.m. for dinner and return to Ann Arbor about 7 p.m.

The ladies at Whitmore Lake plan to serve chicken with mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, salad, rolls, coffee or tea, cake and ice cream.

Please make reservations in advance. Tickets are $6 per person. To make reservations send your name, address and phone number along with the check or money to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Lacy, 1832 Vinewood Blvd., Ann Arbor.

See coupon on page 7.

VOTE ON REVISED CONSTITUTION, 'CANDID CAMERA' SHOW PLANNED AT WCHS ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 12

The annual meeting of the Washtenaw County Historical Society at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 12, in Liberty Hall at Ann Arbor Federal Savings and Loan will feature both important business and lighter moments.

The business includes voting on the revised constitution and by-laws as well as election of officers and board members, and the president and treasurer's annual reports.

A "candid camera" slide show of "WHS Members on Parade" produced by local historian-about-town Wystan Stevens will provide the lighter moments. Wystan has been snapping members at unguarded moments at meetings, parties and tours. He has put all the slides together into an uncensored show you won't want to miss. YOU may be in it!

The main changes proposed in the Constitution and By-laws are:

1. To change the name officially from Washtenaw Historical Society to Washtenaw County Historical Society;
2. Establish an executive vice-president;
3. Change the fiscal year from July 1 to June 30 to January 1 to December 31;
4. Establish a quorum as being ten per cent of the members in good standing.

Copies of the revised constitution and by-laws have been distributed to the membership. Corrections or changes should be submitted in writing to Secretary Ethelyn Morton by June 1. The Board, assisted by other members, has been working on the proposed revision for more than a year.

CAME TO ANN ARBOR BY OXTEAM

LUCY'S PIANO RESTORED TO FORMER GLORY

The story of Ann Arbor's first piano and how it was restored to its former glory after being "lost" was the theme of the April meeting of the Washtenaw County Historical Society.

The restored piano was first unveiled and played at the December, 1974, meeting. Since then the missing grillwork has been painstakingly replaced, an engraved brass plate attached to identify it and a brochure published about it.

The project was inspired by Miss Lela Duff, a Society member and author of Ann Arbor Yesterdays. She told about the piano's history, while Herbert Bartlett and Prof. Leigh Anderson detailed steps in the restoration. Prof. Kurt Pickut who rebuilt the playing mechanism was unable to be present. Prof. Charles R. Fisher of the U-M School of Music played it.

About 1970, Miss Duff became concerned about the piano and began to make inquiries. The results were disconcerting because no one seemed to know for sure where it was.

About thirty years had elapsed since Lucy Chapin, granddaughter of the original owner, had given it to the WCHS. It was supposed to be stored in the University's Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments, but identification was difficult because it had not been marked. (The Stearns Collection was housed in Hill Auditorium for many years but did not have a curator in charge.)

Herb Bartlett of the WCHS board, calling himself the "leg man" for Miss Duff's suggestions, searched for documentary evidence. Court records showed Miss Chapin willed it to the society. He found other evidence that the University Musical Society had accepted custodianship. But the real proof was a picture of the piano found in Miss Chapin's papers in the WCHS collection in the Michigan Historical Collections at Bentley Library.

Miss Duff who has "always been fascinated by the story of the piano" and its journey from New York state thinks it came via the Erie Canal and crossed Lake Erie in a schooner. From Detroit it came to Ann Arbor in 1827 by oxcart over roads that were not yet even "corduroy."

Miss Duff says she has never been able to prove the myth that Lucy Ann Clark wouldn't come to Michigan without her piano, but soon after she got here with it she became the center of attention.

The Indians were captivated by it. They loved to dance to its music and Chief Okemos once offered several ponies for the instrument and its player, she noted.

Lucy Ann also captivated the most eligible bachelor in town--Judge James Kingsley. Three years after she came, they were married. She had finished boarding school in the east and it is assumed she was in her late teens when she came here.

The whereabouts of some other musical instruments in early Ann Arbor is unknown. James, the father of Ann Arbor's co-founder, John Allen, had a violin and played for dances. The large Mills family had a band here also. (Lorrin Mills had played at the opening of the Erie Canal and at a reception for Gen. Lafayette when he returned to visit America as an old man, she said.)

Later, German immigrants brought the zither. She knows of three in Ann Arbor, including one owned by Martin Haller a local merchant who belonged to a zither club.

But Lucy Clark's piano became an institution in Ann Arbor and almost a "person" to Miss Duff who traced much of its history. "I know the houses it lived in," she said.

Mrs. Hannah Clark, with her children, Edward and Lucy, first rented rooms in a frame house at Ashley and Washington Sts. in the then three-year old village of Ann Arbor. (Most of the houses then were log cabins.) That house was still standing in the 1920's when O.W. Stephenson wrote Ann Arbor, The First Hundred Years.

The Clarks moved to Main St. After Lucy married, she lived at Kingsley and Detroit Sts. Then in 1835 Judge Kingsley built the house that is still standing on the southeast corner of Kingsley and Division Sts., now McLean Apartments.

When his wife, Lucy, died in 1859, he gave up the house and went to his farm to live.

The piano apparently was for a time in the William St. residence of "Gen." Edward Clark, Lucy's older brother, Miss Duff discovered. (She thinks the title, "General", was honorary.)

Then Lucy's daughter, Frances Kingsley, who married Charles Chapin, had the piano and finally it passed to the Chapin children, Volney and Lucy. Miss Chapin had it in her home at 803 Kingsley St. until her death in 1940.

"They say music soothes the savage breast. I guess it did," she concluded, "because never did Ann Arbor have any trouble with the Indians."

Finding the cost of professional restoration of the case

prohibitive, Mr. Bartlett then hoped to find an "expert amateur" volunteer. He found him in the person of Leigh Anderson, professor emeritus of chemistry, whose almost full-time hobby is woodworking.

At that point no one dreamed the mechanism could ever be restored, too, as it has been by Prof. Pickut.

Prof. Anderson, incorporating Prof. Pickut's report into his presentation, showed slides of the piano with close-ups of various parts and stages of the monumental restoration project.

When the piano was removed from the Stearns Collection in the fall of 1973, it was found time and atmospheric conditions had played havoc with the case and mechanism. Much of the cabinet inlay or veneer had fallen away, the shelf underneath was loose, the brass casters were black with tarnish and two would not turn.

The keys lay uneven across the board where the leathers no longer supported them, most of the strings were missing, the sounding board was loose and broken. It was loosely held together by crystallized glue.

Prof. Anderson said he could tell quickly what he did, but it took several months because he had to do it over and over. He replaced all the missing inlay, stained and varnished the piano, polished up the casters and put them in working order etc.

But before he could replace the inlay, he had to make his own stock. Modern veneer inlay is only 1/28 inch thick while the original on the piano was probably 1/16 he thinks. He used walnut because of its stability.

He had to partly disassemble the piano to replace the inlay. After reassembling the piano, he stained it mahogany to match the name plate or fall board which still has its original finish. He then applied several coats of varnish.

Originally the piano had panels of fine grill work at either end of the name board behind the keys. The grill was backed with French blue silk. In December the cloth had been replaced in matching color, but only a few broken edges of the grill remained.

The missing grill work bothered Herb Bartlett. "It was like showing Whistler's Mother with snaggy teeth," he said.

He wanted to find an authentic design, if not the actual one. He contacted Ford Museum in Dearborn. They referred him to four other places. It was the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., which sent him a series of photographs.

From these, he put his engineering talents to work to reproduce the pictured design in the proper proportions.

Prof. Anderson glued two pieces of white maple wood together on the ends and attached a Xerox copy of Mr. Bartlett's drawing so he could cut two grills at the same time. The wood was Steinway piano stock supplied by Prof. Pickut.

The grills were carefully filed down with jewelers files (Mrs. Anderson helped with this painstaking chore.), finished and attached. Prof. Anderson compared tracings of the remaining original grill work to the new and he thinks the design is close.

After he got into the restoration project, Prof. Anderson went to the University School of Music hoping to find a student who might partly restore the musical mechanism so people could see how it worked.

He found Prof. Pickut, one of the foremost experts in the world on rebuilding this type of piano--a square piano. Prof. Pickut moved it to his home and completely rebuilt it.

It was a time consuming and involved process with "trouble added to trouble" Prof. Anderson said. As Prof. Pickut replaced one part, another would give way.

The piano, a small five-octave instrument built between 1814 and 1816 by John Kearsing & Sons of New York City, was made before strong cast iron frames were used.

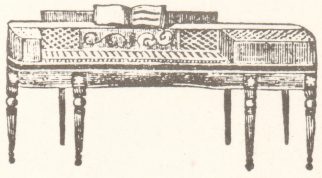
Prof. Pickut had to stabilize the case as much as possible to withstand the tension of the strings. Each of the 136 strings now pulls with a pressure equal to 22 to 25 pounds, or a total of 3,100 pounds, equal to the weight of a medium-size automobile.

With 18-20 tunings, Prof. Pickut was gradually able to bring it up to a minor third of the original pitch, Prof. Anderson reported.

But long before he could do that, he had to rebuild and repair the many parts that make up the inside of a piano He contributed his own harpsichord tuning pins. He put in all new strings. He used Steinway damper felt and the finest organ pouch leather.

Prof. Fisher completed the program by playing Mozart Variations, "La Belle Française" on the piano.

Copies of a brochure about the piano are available by contacting President Hazel Proctor at Ann Arbor Federal Savings and Loan's downtown office, 769-8300.



JUNE 1911

ANN ARBOR HIGH'S SWEETEST GRADUATION EVER

This is a tale that involves the University and roses, but it has nothing to do with football.

It happened in the new University Arboretum on a June night in 1911. As a result, Ann Arbor High had its sweetest graduation ever.

But let's let one of the principals in the affair tell it. He is Frederick O. Bishop, a retired engineer now of Chattanooga, Tenn., and a friend of Herb Bartlett of WCHS.

As he relates, the Bishops had moved back to Ann Arbor in the summer of 1905 and lived on the old Crozier farm on Geddes Ave., one mile east of E. University Ave.

"I attended the old Tappan School, then situated on E. University Ave. at about the site of the new Physics-Astronomy Bldg. and later on I entered the old Ann Arbor High School on State St. in the fall of 1907.

"I walked past the Conner farm and what was to become the Arboretum of the University of Michigan every day, going to and from school. In 1907 came the announcement that the Connor-Nichols family had given the University a considerable amount of land facing on the Geddes Rd. to be used for botanical gardens or landscaping purposes. The first thing that the University did was to plant a large rose garden of several acres in size right along the edge of Geddes Ave."

Fred Bishop's parents were happy to discover that their neighbors about a quarter of a mile toward town, at the top of the hill, were the Langleys whom they had known when they first came to Michigan in 1873. Old acquaintances were renewed and the families visited back and forth socially and the Bishops also sold them milk and other products from the farm.

Prof. Langley had taught English at Michigan and elsewhere. He was a brother of Samuel Pierpont Langley, "a famous scientist and inventor who worked at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and who invented and constructed a flying machine sometime before the Wright brothers but never had a practical engine to get it off the ground."

Prof. Langley's daughter, Anna, taught at Ann Arbor High School and walked back and forth to school just as the students and other teachers did.

Miss Langley, was more sophisticated than most of the other teachers as she had traveled to India and China and around the world. She was a special friend of Fred's. Sometimes he and a friend, Frank Kolbe, walked with her.

Came graduation week and the last day of school. "There was no class work assignment and Miss Langley spent the hour having a chatty conversation with the students, asking them about what they were going to do and what college they might attend, as most of them planned to continue their education in college somewhere.

("Ann Arbor High School was considered one of the best in the state, he notes, and there were always a number of students from other cities around the state who came there for their last year of high school as there were subjects taught there which were not available in smaller local schools and a certificate from the Ann Arbor High School guaranteed admission to the University.")

"Toward the end of the hour, Miss Langley remarked, 'I think it would be nice if we could have some flowers to decorate the auditorium for the graduation exercises on Saturday...some roses. Mr. Bishop knows where there are lots of roses, don't you Mr. Bishop?'

"As a vision of the rose garden flashed across my mind, I replied, 'Yes, I know where they are.'

"Miss Langley then said, 'Mr. Bishop, do you sup-p-pose that arrangements could be made to have some roses for the auditorium on Saturday?'

He agreed and she appointed a committee of "Mr. Bishop, Mr. Buell, and Mr. Wuerth." Class was dismissed a few moments later and the committee held an impromptu meeting in the corridor. "We had to decide when to get the roses, how to transport them to the high school and means of transportation."

"I agreed to furnish a horse and buggy as we had one and I lived closest to the garden. But I told them, we could not store them overnight at my house as my parents might object.

"Buell said, 'We can't take them to my house as my folks would raise the roof.' Buell's father was state secretary of the YMCA and a pillar in the Congregational Church.

"Then 'Shorty' Wuerth spoke up and said we could take them to his house down on S. University Ave. We then settled on the time that, when the campus clock

should strike the hour of 1 a.m. on Saturday morning, we committeemen would have a rendezvous with the roses on the Geddes Ave. hill.

"My parents were early risers and went to bed early every night and on Friday night I went up to my room about ten o' clock and stretched out on the bed with my clothes on. A little after 12 o' clock, I rose and stepped carefully down the stairs, carrying my shoes in my hand, and went down to the barn and hitched the horse to the buggy and then carefully led the animal out the driveway to the street as we had to pass directly under the window of my parents' bedroom.

"As I pulled up at the rose garden I saw two shadowy figures rise from the ground just as the campus clock bell pealed the stroke of 1 a.m. and they proved to be my trusty committeemen.

"I had brought along six burlap grain bags and we went to work without delay. I cautioned the boys to move around and not pick too many roses in one area so that it might be noticeable in daylight. So we worked rapidly and in a few minutes all the bags were filled and we went on our way to Oxford Rd. and S. University Ave. and down to Shorty's house near E. University Ave.

"It was a large red brick house with a huge porch along the back side and Shorty had already made arrangements for the flowers earlier that evening. He had six large galvanized wash tubs set up on the porch and about half-filled with water. So we dumped a bag in each tub and stirred them around so that all the stems would be under water

"It was then about 2:30 a.m. and Buell and I went home and Shorty was to get the roses down to the high school by taxi as soon as the building was opened at about 8 o' clock in the morning. Taxi fare to the high school from his house was 25 cents.

"There had been really a small chance of our being seen as the streets were as deserted as the surface of the moon and we did not see a single person. The nearest policeman walked a beat down near Huron and State Sts.

"The next morning I rose at the usual time and my parents had not the slightest idea as to our nocturnal occupation at the rose garden. The time of the high school graduation exercises was 10 a.m. About 9:15 I left the house on my way to walk down to the high school building and, when I came opposite to the rose garden,

I paused to look over the place where our committee had been so busily engaged a few hours before. From a casual inspection from the sidewall, no one would ever have noticed that there was a single rose missing, as there must have been thousands of blooms and we had used care in our work.

"When I arrived at the high school auditorium there were our floral decorations and it must have been the most beautiful and extensive showing of flowers ever seen at a graduation exercise in that place, before or since. I do not recall any discussion with Miss Langley after the event, but I know that she was well pleased with the result.

"As to our committee, 'Shorty' Wuerth died many years ago. 'Si' Buell is now living in retirement in Florida and when I last saw him there in 1968, he still remembered the episode of the roses back in June of 1911."

FLOWER POTS NEEDED FOR WCHS PLANT SALE PROJECT

A sort of living memorial to the late Katherine Groomes may result from a special WCHS project heartily endorsed by her daughter, Mrs. Marguerite Berg of Ithaca, New York.

Mrs. Berg said it would break her heart to throw out her mother's houseplants and Lydia Muncy, who shared Mrs. Groomes's interest in plants, agreed to take them. Mrs. Muncy plans to slip the plants and start many new ones this summer. Then the society may hold a plant sale in the fall to benefit the museum fund.

To do this, she needs lots of extra flower pots and other plant containers, both large and small, either clay or plastic. Even cottage cheese containers can be used. Planters, hanging baskets and glass bottles suitable for terrariums would be especially good.

Even if you have only one or two containers to donate they will be welcome. Pots may be left at the Muncy's, 1015 Martin Pl. or small amounts could be brought to the next meeting. If you can't deliver them, please call Mrs. Muncy at 663-3761 for pick-up.

Mrs. Groomes plants include several succulents and cacti, including Christmas cactus, a spider plant, ivy, two varieties of hoya, azalea, poinsettia, a colored-leaf begonia and several African violets.

A SPECIAL THANKS

To Hazel Proctor's sons, John and Donald for their many services to the society. They are our movers, barn repairers and things like that.

KATHERINE GROOMES' MELODEON (A TYPE OF ORGAN), UNUSUAL SEED WREATH ADDED TO WCHS COLLECTION

With Ann Arbor's first piano, an Allmenginger organ and now Katherine Groomes' melodeon, WCHS seems well on its way to a musical collection to be proud of in its future museum.

The melodeon and an unusual seed wreath were gifts to the society from Mrs. Groomes through her daughter, Marguerite Berg of Ithaca, N.Y. Mrs. Groomes, who was a past president of the society and secretary-treasurer for 21 years, died March 18 at age 88.

The melodeon is "a type of reed organ very popular in the United States in the late 19th century" according to Encyclopedia Americana. The age of this instrument is not certain but it was old when it was given to the young Mr. and Mrs. I. William Groomes by a longtime family friend, Nellie Truesdale, according to Mrs. Addie Groomes, a sister-in-law of Katherine Groomes.

It developed from the harmonium and differs in that foot operated bellows draw air in past the reeds by suction, rather than out by pressure. This one was made by Taylor and Farley, Worcester, Mass.

The seed wreath is in the form of an oval, open at the top. It is about 20 by 17 inches and made of different kinds of seeds, reports Miss Linda Eberbach, who is keeping it for the Society. It is framed in a deep "shadow-box" frame.

A note attached by Mrs. Groomes identifies it as Mrs. Rhoda Fuller's, bears the date July 19, 1875, and refers to page 232 in O. W. Stephenson's Ann Arbor, The First Hundred Years.

There we learn that Mrs. Rhoda Fuller was the mother-in-law of Judge Lawrence, and apparently a quite vigorous lady of 85 in 1875, judging by the incident described.

It seems that on July 19, 1875, a new Champion reaper was being demonstrated for Gottlieb Hutzel on Judge Lawrence's farm. The audience was well pleased, especially Mrs. Fuller who asked that she might drive the team. She was assisted to the driver's seat and took the reins and "guided the team around the field in a manner that would have done credit to an experienced horseman" according to Stephenson's account.

It was not long after this that reapers and mowing machines became a common sight on farms around Ann Arbor and wheat raising became very profitable in this area, partly because of more extensive use of farm machinery.

GENEALOGY SECTION PLANS TO MEET THROUGH SUMMER

The Genealogy section of WCHS plans to continue monthly meetings through the summer.

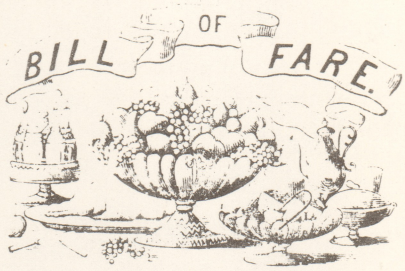
The section's first annual meeting will begin with a potluck salad luncheon at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 22, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. William F. Bender, 2310 Ayshire Dr., Ann Arbor. Those attending are asked to bring a salad to serve eight.

Officers for the coming year will be elected. Members are invited to bring interesting bits and pieces of information that they have found in their searches to share with the group, Mrs. Bender said.

On Saturday, July 19th the group will meet at the home of Harold Jones, 701 Glazier Rd., Chelsea. Topics for the 2 p.m. meeting will be "Using Mormon Resources" and "Filling Out Charts". Those needing directions may telephone Mr. Jones at 475-7278. A potluck picnic dinner will follow at 4:30 p.m.

Arrangements for the August meeting are not yet complete. Sunday, Sept. 14, the Genealogy Section will have a program on "Reading A Cemetery." After a short talk on it, they will go and do just that.

For further information, telephone Polly Bender, 668-6925.



PICKLED BEEF FOR SUMMER

For anyone who has just butchered here is a handy recipe for preserving meat. Its from the Salem Cook Book, edited by the Ladies Dime Society of the Second Congregational Church of Salem, Mich., circa 1915.

Beef pickle--For twenty-five pounds of beef. One gallon of water, one and one-half pounds salt, one pound brown sugar, one ounce of saltpeter, one teaspoonful baking soda. Put into a boiler, let come to a boil, then put in as much beef as the brine will cover and let come to a boil. Remove meat and pack in a crock; serve all the beef likewise afterwhich let the pickle come to a boil and skim, then pour over the beef boiling hot. Weight the beef down; will keep all summer.--Mrs. Henry Whittaker.

COUPLE FINDS ART, PURITAN PHILOSOPHY IN HOBBY OF MAKING GRAVESTONE RUBBINGS IN NEW ENGLAND

If you have ever put paper over a coin and rubbed a soft pencil over the paper to make a likeness of the coin, you have used the technique for making cemetery rubbings.

Making rubbings is a helpful tool for the genealogist faced with an illegible inscription on a tombstone, but rubbings of the stone-cutters designs are also an interesting hobby.

Chester and Mary Jane Trout of Lansing, who have more than 250 such rubbings, discussed their hobby at the April meeting of the Genealogical Section of WCHS. He is an artist at the museum at Michigan State University and she is a reference librarian at the state library.

They have found rice paper and a heel ball of wax from the shoemaker or carpenter's crayon from the hardware are the best tools for rubbings. They first clean the stone with a hand brush to remove lichens and dirt. They may use water if necessary. Then they tape the rice paper on with masking tape. Using the left hand to follow the design, rub with the right, lightly at first to trace the overall outlines, then all over, they suggest.

They have made most of their rubbings in old cemeteries in Massachusetts and Vermont from stones erected before 1800.

While art work and imagery were generally frowned on by the Puritans, they curiously got around this belief by calling tombstone carving a "civil activity".

In an age when illiteracy was high, carvings told a story, Mr. Trout noted. Earlier stones reflected a grim view of death with skulls, scythes, or Father time with an hour glass.

Gradually cherubs replaced skeletons, and flowers, grapevines and birds came to be used. The Trouts have also found suns, the all-seeing eye, trumpets, crowns, hearts, darts (of death), bats (sting of death), coats of arms and some attempts at portraiture.

The Trouts have found some interesting epitaphs. One of the most unusual reads:

"Here lies Jane Smith, wife of Thomas Smith, marble cutter. This monument was erected by her husband as a tribute to her memory and a specimen of his work. Monuments of the same style, 225 pounds."

The philosophy on the stone represented the ideas of the stone carver or purchaser, they noted, not the deceased.

SOME OF THE TROUTS' FAVORITE EPITAPHS

Under this stone lies poor John Round
Lost at sea and never found.

Behold and see as you pass by
As you are now, so once was I
As I am now, so you shall be
So prepare for death and follow me.

Here lie I by the Chapel door
Here lie I because I'm poor
The further in the more you pay
Here lie I as warm as they!

My flesh shall slumber in the ground
Till archangels trump shall sound
Then burst the chains with sweet surprise
And in my Savior's image rise.

Farewell my young companions all
From death's arrest no age is free;
Remember this a warning call,
Prepare to follow after me.
The wise and sober and the brave
Must try the cold and silent grave.

Here lies my wife in earthly mold
Who when she lived did nought but scol
Good friends go softly in your walking
Lest she should wake and rise up talking

CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

Editor's note: This will be the final issue of "The Impressions" until September. Plans were not final at press time for some summer activities. Please consult local newspapers for later announcements.

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Chelsea Area Historical Society--sale of hand-made craft items at Chelsea Art Fair Aug. 8 and 9 to benefit the society. Weekly Wednesday morning workshops are planned to make sale items.

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Milan Historical Society--7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, at Milan Community House.

MHS plans to display Milan historical items at the annual Milan Community Fair in July. The Society is also writing a history of Milan for the Bicentennial. It hopes to submit it to the state Bicentennial Commission in Lansing at the end of the year for publication. While Milan dates from 1831, little was recorded until the 1880's. That makes the job more difficult, President Warren Hale comments.

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MAY MEETING TO FEATURE EARLY WASHTENAW SCENES

Circuit Judge Ross Campbell, whose hobby is local history, will share his collection of slides of early Washtenaw County scenes with the Washtenaw County Historical Society at its May meeting.

The meeting will be at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 22, in Liberty Hall at Ann Arbor Federal Savings & Loan, Liberty at Division Sts., Ann Arbor.

Judge Campbell has been building his collection over a period of years by having slides made of old pictures he has collected or received on loan. His collection includes pictures of Ann Arbor and outlying villages, old homes and farm scenes.

Dexter Historical Society--8 p.m. Thursday, May 29, at Wylie School. The Dexter Vintage Car Club will display their cars in the parking lot beginning at 7:15 and show slides and movies of old car parades. They will also give a brief history of early autos and auto dealers in Dexter.

***

Saline Area Historical Society--Installation of officers for the coming year will be held at a dessert and business meeting June 17. The officers are to be elected at the May meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, at the Saline High School Cafeteria, when the program will be on bottle collecting.

President Dan Lirones reports they have a "tremendous collection" of old photographs of Saline for the book to be published by Ann Arbor Federal. They are also starting an oral history project. They plan to collect interviews with long-time Saline residents on cassette tape and prepare a catalogue on the tapes as they go along, he said.

Vice-President Nancy Foust who is taking a museum study course at Eastern Michigan University is spending about six weeks in Florence, Italy, in connection with the course.

Ypsilanti Historical Society--Museum at 220 N. Huron St. will be open through the summer on the regular schedule of 2-4 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sundays. Free admission.

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